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STANTHORPE

and the Granite Belt

Greetings From STANTHORPE SHIRE COUNCIL.
To _____

SOUVENIR

The
Fruit Garden of Queensland



919.433

STA

Copy 3

IN presenting this Souvenir Booklet the publisher's object has been to achieve a production worthy of this wonderful and productive district. Neither time nor expense has been spared in attaining this objective, and he trusts that the results obtained will meet with the approval of all.

To Mr. A. E. Bale for the introductory article and to Mr. H. Jarvis for the article on the fruit industry, the publisher tenders his grateful thanks, and also to the Tourist Bureau for the loan of photographs.

1934?

STANTHORPE & DISTRICT

Queensland's Wonderful Mountain Fruit Garden

STANTHORPE, the most glorious place for the Tourist, an easily accessible place by road or train. By good road from Brisbane via Mt. Lindsay, through some of the best pastoral land and mountain scrub scenery, a distance of 150 miles, or, via Toowoomba and the Darling Downs, for the most part good road also, a distance of 200 miles. By the latter route a quiet day's drive with luncheon in Toowoomba and dinner in Stanthorpe; or by Mt. Lindsay road, an early start from Brisbane and lunch in Stanthorpe—and on arrival some of the best accommodation in any town in Australia, five first-class hotels with light airy rooms and excellent cuisine.

Stanthorpe is the most famous health resort in Queensland, and possibly in Australia. Nearly 3,000 feet above sea level, the fine bracing mountain air, and absence from mosquitoes and other pests make a holiday here a delightful one. It has scenery of a ruggedness all its own. Good roads lead out of the town to many glorious views of the surrounding country. On one road through the National Park a reasonable climb takes the tourist to the top of Mt. Norman, over 4,000 feet above sea level when a most gorgeous panorama spreads to the eye as far as sight can carry, and the rock formations in this particular place are very wonderful. Round about here is the home of that quaint marsupial, the Wombat,

and the Lyre Bird is to be found in secluded spots in the vicinity. The bush teems with bird life and a fair quantity of wallabies of different sorts may be seen.



STANTHORPE POST OFFICE

And then the orchards and to taste the glorious sun-kissed fruit from the Granite Belt. Think of picking the finest plums, peaches, and apricots on a dewy morning straight from the tree so ripe that they fall into the hand at a touch. You dwellers in cities who buy the fruit, which has been picked days before, from the shops and stalls, do not know the taste of the same fruit ripened on the trees.

And then the apples and pears, which of course ripen later than the stone fruits. To taste the large apples that do not as a rule go to the market, up to five inches and over, full of sugar, and sweet and luscious to the palate. The glorious

Granny Smith, the cooker par excellence, and afterwards a beautiful eater. The luscious Jonathan, Delicious, and Winesap, varieties that grow to perfection here. The tourist who can visit the district during the fruit season is in for a good time. Then the climate. In the summer the thermometer rarely rises above 80 degrees, dry heat, and then after sundown the mercury drops to anything down to 40 degrees, requiring, even after the hottest day, a couple of blankets on the bed on retiring, and even at times a fire is very cherry after

STANTHORPE AND DISTRICT—THE FRUIT GARDEN OF QUEENSLAND

dark. Then the glorious bracing winter climate. White frost up to 20 degrees before sunrise and after the thaw the thermometer registering 60 degrees by mid-day, and the open fires with back logs at night, with clear wireless from distant stations. What more could man desire unless it is a game of Bridge, which is also easy to obtain here.

There is nothing superior to the grapes grown here. All the principal varieties are grown by up-to-date growers to perfection. Some of the vineyards exceed 20 acres in extent. Just imagine a solid 20 acres of vines grown in rows on wire trellises. Miles of wire, thousands of posts are required to support the bunches of purple, white, pink and other colours. How glorious they look when ripening and how refreshing and luscious they are on a warm day, and how accessible to obtain. Just pull up your car and go in and introduce yourself to the proprietor, and as he takes you through his vineyard he clips a bunch from this vine, weighing perhaps 2 lbs. and says "try these;" and then "now this variety has a fine flavour" and another bunch is handed to you until you are so replete with satisfaction and grapes that a child can play with you.

And the numerous picturesque drives round the Granite Belt. By natural granite roads through sylvan glades carpeted with wild flowers; there are hundreds of varieties of wild flowers in this locality.

One could write a book on the wild flowers of this district alone but space forbids, sufficient to say that the passer by need only walk a few yards from his car to pick sufficient flowers to fill it in a few minutes, and if he, or rather his wife is particular, by wandering a little further she can pick a score of varieties in as many minutes. And the gardens of Stanthorpe. Here are grown all the English and cold climate flowers including Foxgloves, Columbines, Canterbury

Bell, Anemones, and all the bulbs, and then the prince of all flowers, the Gladiolus, is grown here by the hundred, in some cases thousands in every garden.

The touch of the sun for pardon,
The song of the bird for mirth,
You are nearer God's truth in the garden,
Than anywhere else on earth.

Then think of the diversity of primary industries within the thousand square miles of country which comprise the Stanthorpe Shire. Very successful tin sluicing is carried out within a few miles of the town and this is most interesting to watch.

Sheep breeding and wool growing is also a large industry here, the Stanthorpe wool topping the market every season. Facts and figures do not as a rule appeal, but I think that a short synopsis would not be amiss here.

The population of the town and district is 6760. 234 tons of tin were shipped from Stanthorpe in 1933 and 528 tons of wool. The tonnage of fruit and vegetables varies of course with the season, but last year 20499 tons were railed from here. The death rate of the town is very low and mostly from old age; the birth rate on the contrary is high. The town is well lit by an electric supply which is controlled and owned by the Shire Council, and the prices charged compare most favourably with towns of much denser population.

Therefore make sure to come to Stanthorpe on your next holiday and a good time can be guaranteed, and if you come to settle here either as a resident in the town or on the land the agents will soon find you a nice house or a block of land suitable to your requirements.

JOHN OXLEY LIBRARY
— BRISBANE —

THE FRUIT INDUSTRY OF THE GRANITE BELT

ENTOMOLOGICAL AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH WORK IN THE STANTHORPE DISTRICT

As a fruit growing area the Stanthorpe District has several advantages. It is the only part of Queensland where deciduous fruit can be successfully grown on a commercial scale, and it is also geographically in a very favoured position, regarding various fruit pests being isolated from the larger fruit growing centres of New South Wales, and in fact, as an eminent scientist once put it, "it is like a little island surrounded by a sea of eucalyptus," and it is undoubtedly owing to this happy position that many of the serious insect and fungus pests affecting deciduous fruits in the Southern States are absent from the Stanthorpe District.

We have, however, some pests, which, like the poor, are always with us, the chief among them being fruit fly, woolly aphis, codling moth, San Jose scale, etc., and for some years officers of the Department of Agriculture and Stock, Brisbane, stationed at Stanthorpe, have been carrying out research work for the control of various insect and fungus pests.

The importance of biological control was early realised, and several beneficial insect parasites were introduced and some considerable success has been achieved in regard to the control of the woolly aphis, which, prior to the introduction of a parasite from New Zealand, was a serious pest of apple trees, necessitating an arduous and expensive spraying programme to keep the pest in check. The useful work still being accomplished by the introduced woolly aphis parasite has very considerably reduced the pest in most orchards.

A good deal of research work has also been done in regard to fruit fly control, and an efficient and inexpensive fruit fly lure has been evolved for use in traps to catch the adult fruit flies in the orchards. Later, spraying experiments have been conducted, opening up a new and very promising avenue of control, and gratifying

results have already been achieved in this district, and these results have recently been confirmed by workers in New South Wales. The method adopted is to treat the tree with a spray, which while being harmless to the fruit and foliage, will obscure the odour of the fruit, and thus protect it from fruit fly attack.

Investigations regarding the control of Black Aphis, Codling Moth, Cabbage Moth, etc., have also been attended with some success, more especially in regard to the control of black aphis and cabbage moth.

The use of arsenical spray for cabbage moth control has been discontinued, and equally efficient sprays of a non-poisonous nature substituted.

Departmental activities have also resulted in the better control of many fungus diseases affecting fruit and vegetables.

The value and importance to the industry of correct cultural methods have been realised, and research work in this direction has placed the industry on a much sounder basis than formerly.

Many old, neglected, and worthless orchards have also been eliminated thus reducing the propagation of all sorts of insect and fungus pests, for which such orchards were an ideal breeding ground. This was a big step towards sound progress, and the neglected or abandoned orchard no longer exists.

Special research work is also being conducted in regard to ascertaining the most suitable stocks for the various fruit trees in the Stanthorpe District, and much valuable data has already been secured, which is bound in time to prove of very great assistance to the fruit growing community.

As a fruit growing centre, the Stanthorpe District is definitely going ahead, and we can look forward with optimism to a very bright future for this small but valuable industry.

THE GOLF LINKS
Stanthorpe

Situated about a mile from town, they have been highly praised by golfing experts who have stated that they are amongst the best links to be found in the country districts of the State.



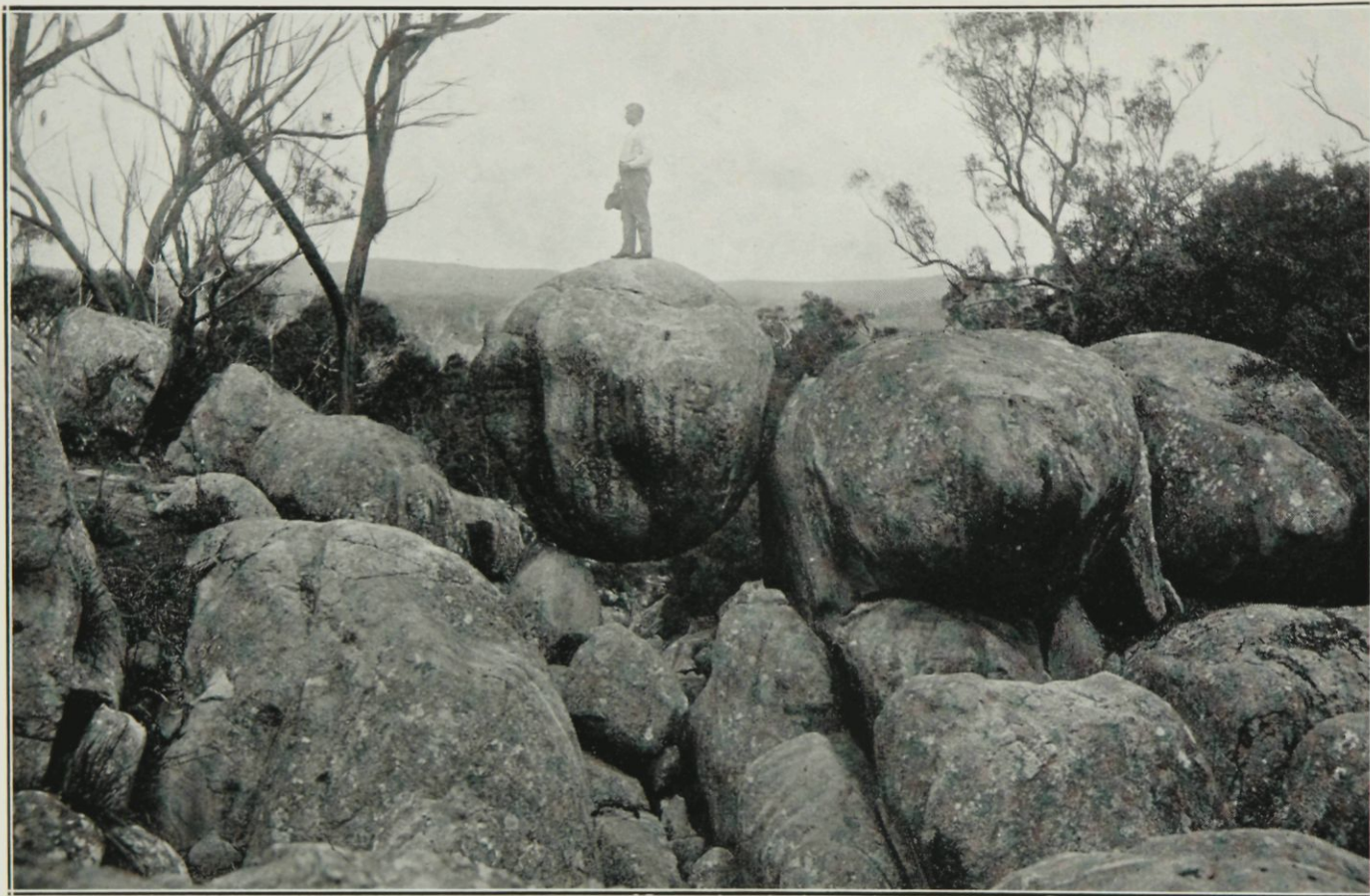


THE CLUB HOUSE
Golf Links, Stanthorpe

This fine Club House is equipped with all the appointments and services necessary to the full enjoyment of the game.

THE CAVES

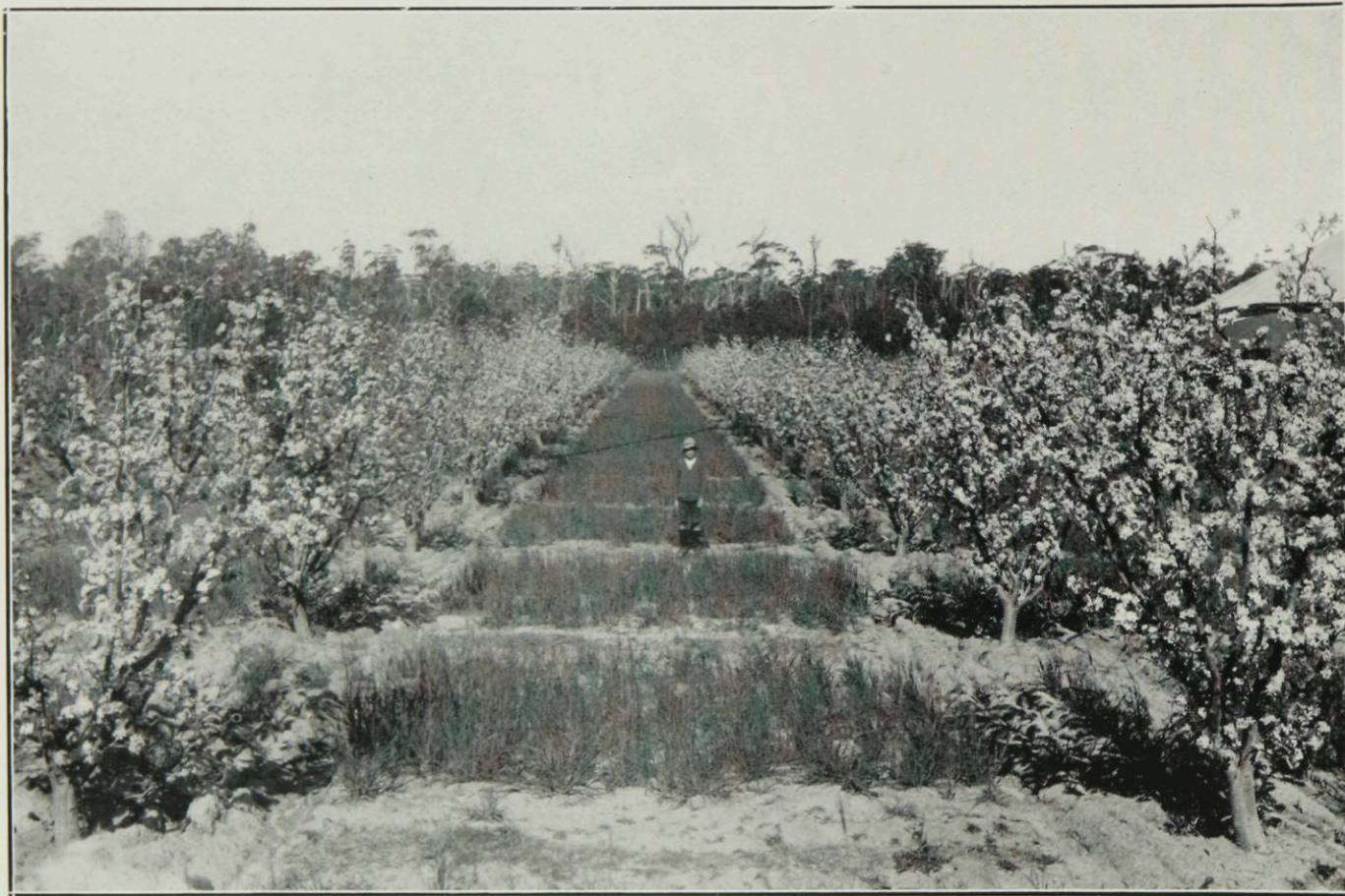
A favourite picnic spot about twenty minutes walk from town. Here Thunderbolt was reputed to lie up and raid the surrounding district





The Stanthorpe
BOWLING CLUB
Visiting Bowlers will find that the traditional good-fellowship existing among bowlers everywhere is to be found in good measure on Stanthorpe's beautiful green.

AN ORCHARD
in early spring showing a green crop partly ploughed in. Extensive use of this method of building up the soil is practised in the Stanthorpe district.





At the corner of
HIGH AND MARYLAND
STREETS, STANTHORPE
Showing Sheahans Hotel

THE WOOL INDUSTRY ~ ~ MINING, ETC.

The Stanthorpe wool growing area is renowned for the fine high priced Merino wool, which is grown on the Trap-rock and Basalt Hills. Year in, year out, the wool from this favoured area consistently tops the Queensland Market.

Approximately a quarter of a million sheep are grazing in the area, principally wether wool growers, but breeding is successfully carried out on the well-known "Pikedale," "Terrica" and "Langlands" properties and in surrounding country of a similar nature.

Owing to the cool climatic conditions and general rainfall, averaging close on 30 inches, droughts are not of a serious nature.

The Stanthorpe Trap-rock belt comprises probably the soundest and safest wool-growing area in the state.

The mining industry has brought millions of pounds to Stanthorpe, and although at the present time tin is not as plentiful as in the "seventies," the value of tin produced last year amounted to £22,052/15/3.

Tin was first discovered in Stanthorpe in 1871, and the town was soon populated with miners when tin was sold at £40 a ton. The railway was completed from Warwick in 1881. Then in 1893 the fruit growing took hold and the invention of the tin dredge helped to make Stanthorpe the important centre it now is. Soon after the country in the west of the town was found to be very fine country for the growing of wool, and from that time, with these three industries and also cattle raising, the town has never looked back.

SPORTING

The Stanthorpe Golf Club holds an honourable place amongst the sporting bodies of the town, and it has played a large part in bringing visitors to the place. Not only that, but once they are here it has helped to keep them here. The Links are situated about a mile from the town, and have been highly praised by golfing experts who have stated that they are amongst the best links to be found in the country districts of the state. The game is played all the year round as even in the middle of summer the weather is not too hot to play. The Club has erected a fine Club House with all the appointments and services necessary to the full enjoyment of the game. The annual Golf Carnival, generally held about the first week in November, attracts visitors from many parts of Queensland and New South Wales, and every third year the Amateur Championship of the Downs and South Western Queensland is played on the Links at Easter. A postcard addressed to the Secretary of the Club will be promptly answered with full information of the events ahead.

The Stanthorpe and District Tennis Association has grown in the last few years, there are now about 24 teams in the Association, playing "A" grade Gents, "B" grade Gents, and mixed. The fixtures are played only in the winter, though, of course, the game is played all the year round. At the end of the season a tournament is held, played on the Sporting House Public Courts. This event is always a great success. The Association also run a tournament for school children, boys and girls. This is always very keenly contested. There is great rivalry in inter-town tennis which is played between Warwick, Tenterfield and Stanthorpe for the Vic. Thompson Cup.

The Stanthorpe and District Cricket Association is a fairly big body also, with 6 "A" grade, 14 "B" grade and 10 School teams. Both grades play inter-town matches and in the "A" grade they hold their own. Players go to Brisbane for Country Week, etc. and every Easter a team visits Stanthorpe.

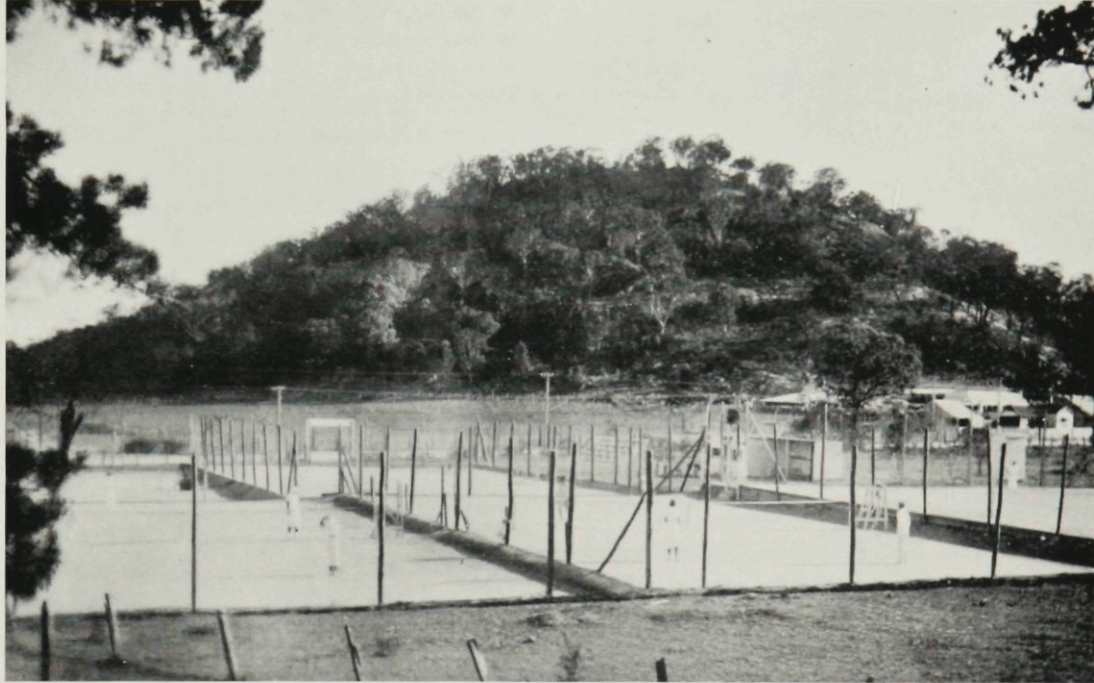
Stanthorpe has also a very "live" Cycling Club which holds social runs as well as track and road races throughout the season.

STANTHORPE PUBLIC TENNNIS COURTS

The courts are situated near the Golf Links and Bowling Green. There are five good courts with plenty of back run and side run. The surface of the courts is well kept; seating accomodation. Club shed and everything for players.

All the big events are played on these courts. There are tournaments every year which include visiting teams and players.

Every Thursday afternoon is a social afternoon, which is well patronised.



FEEES

10/- per day per court. 7/6 per half-day, or 1/- per day per player. Balls supplied in all cases. At the Club shed one may get afternoon tea 6d. and soft drinks 4d.

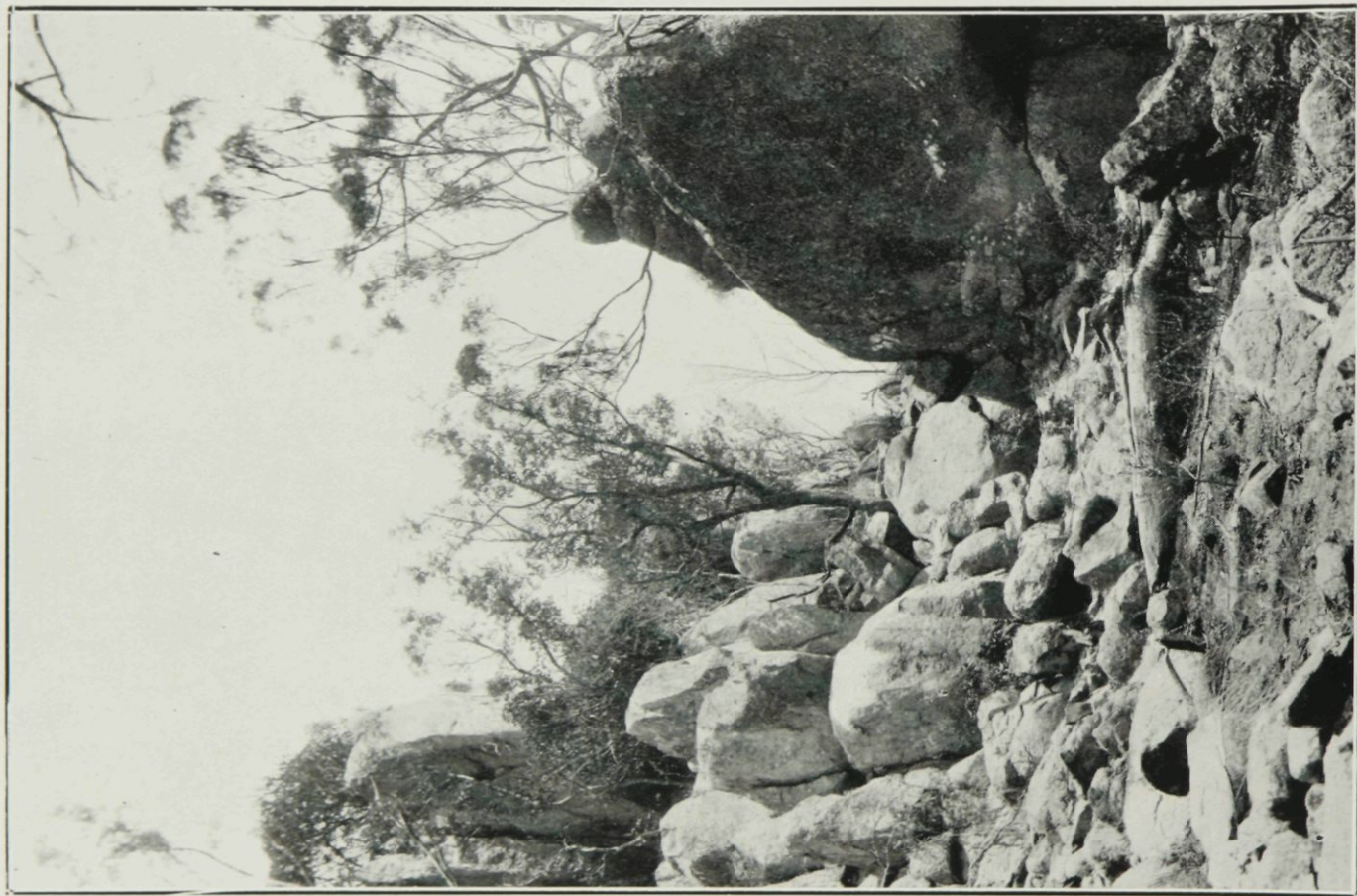
PARTICULARS

A game at any time can be arranged for visitors or players at ordinary charges. Further particulars on application to Vic. Thompson, Proprietor, Phone 243 (shop), 324 (residence.)

The players of note who have played on the courts at different times are the N.S.W. rep. team and A. Huxley, J. Bromwich, G. Moon, R. O. Cummings, L. Hancock, J. Brimson, J. Grimstead. The above players have always put up a good showing. Mr. Roy Thompson, who is employed by Vic. Thompson for the purpose of giving lessons and coaching players at any time they wish, holds trophies from Brisbane, Toowoomba, Tenterfield, Stanthorpe and is under Mr. R. O. Cummings Queensland's leading professional.

GOAT ROCKS

Near Pike Range, Stan-
thorpe, showing typical
rock formation of the
Granite Belt.





THE WAR MEMORIAL

Built on an eminence overlooking the town, this is one of the most beautiful War Memorials in the State.

PIKE CREEK

showing Pikedale House
Pikedale Station is the
largest in the Shire and
consists of some of the
best country, carrying
in ordinary seasons, 2
sheep to about 3 acres.





Portion of
THE MAIN STREET
STANTHORPE

showing the Post Office
and the School of Arts.

**THE
COUNTRY CLUB
HOTEL**

On the occasion of the
visit of H.R.H the Duke
of Gloucester.





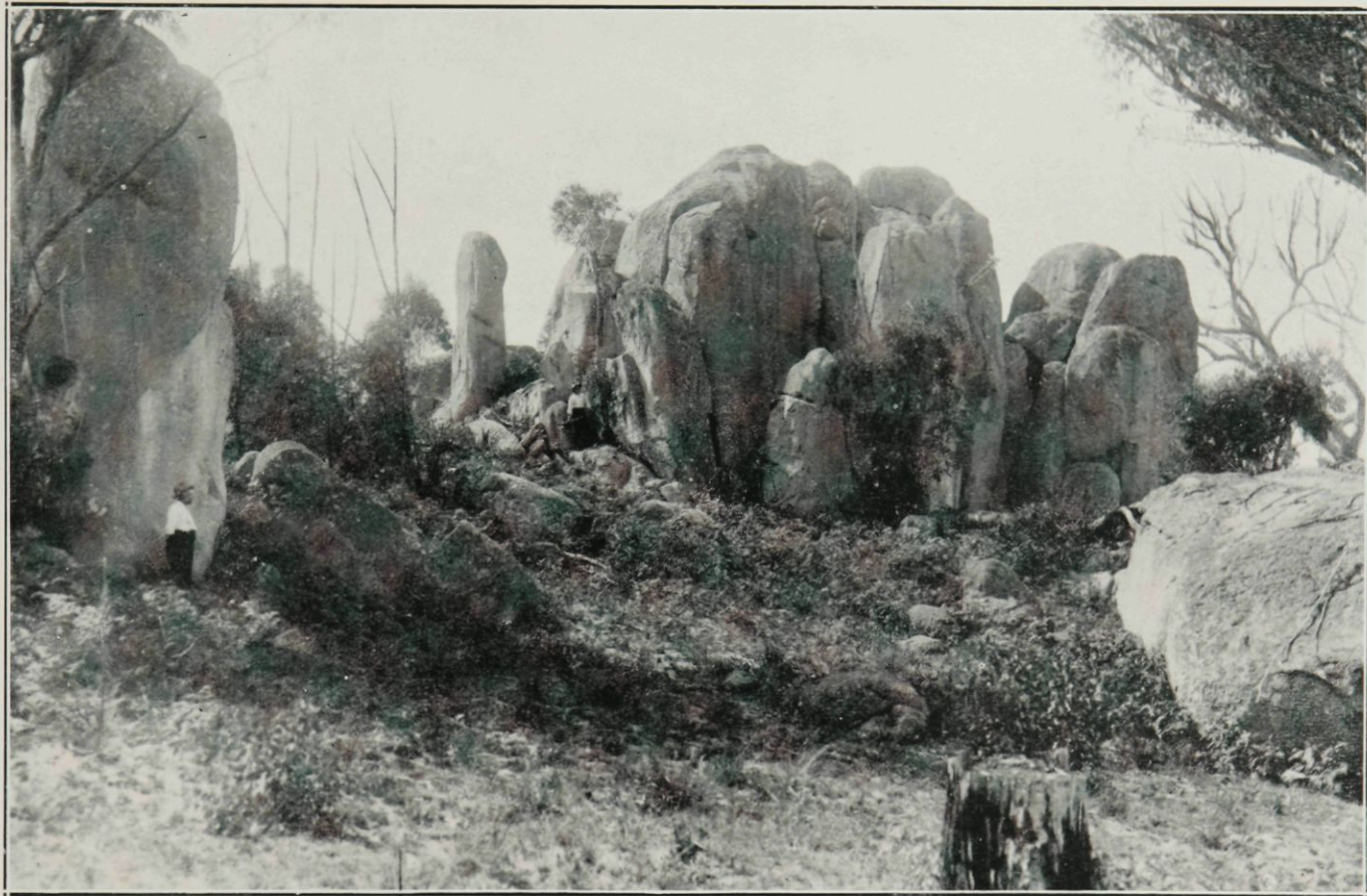
**BOONOO BOONOO
FALLS**

These falls are distant about 28 miles and are some 300 or 400 feet fall. To see this fall in flood is an awe inspiring sight.

PICKING PLUMS

There is work for all during the "season," when so much has to be done in so little time.





SENTIMENTAL ROCKS

Very nice views can be seen from the top of this remarkable group of huge rocks. A comfortable ten minute's walk from the Post Office.



THE POOL
Funker's Gap Creek .
Near Stanthorpe



PALING YARD CREEK
Near The Pyramids
Stanthorpe District

TIN SLUICING

Tin has been a wonderful source of revenue to the district. Sluicing is an interesting sight and a visit to the plants is well warranted.



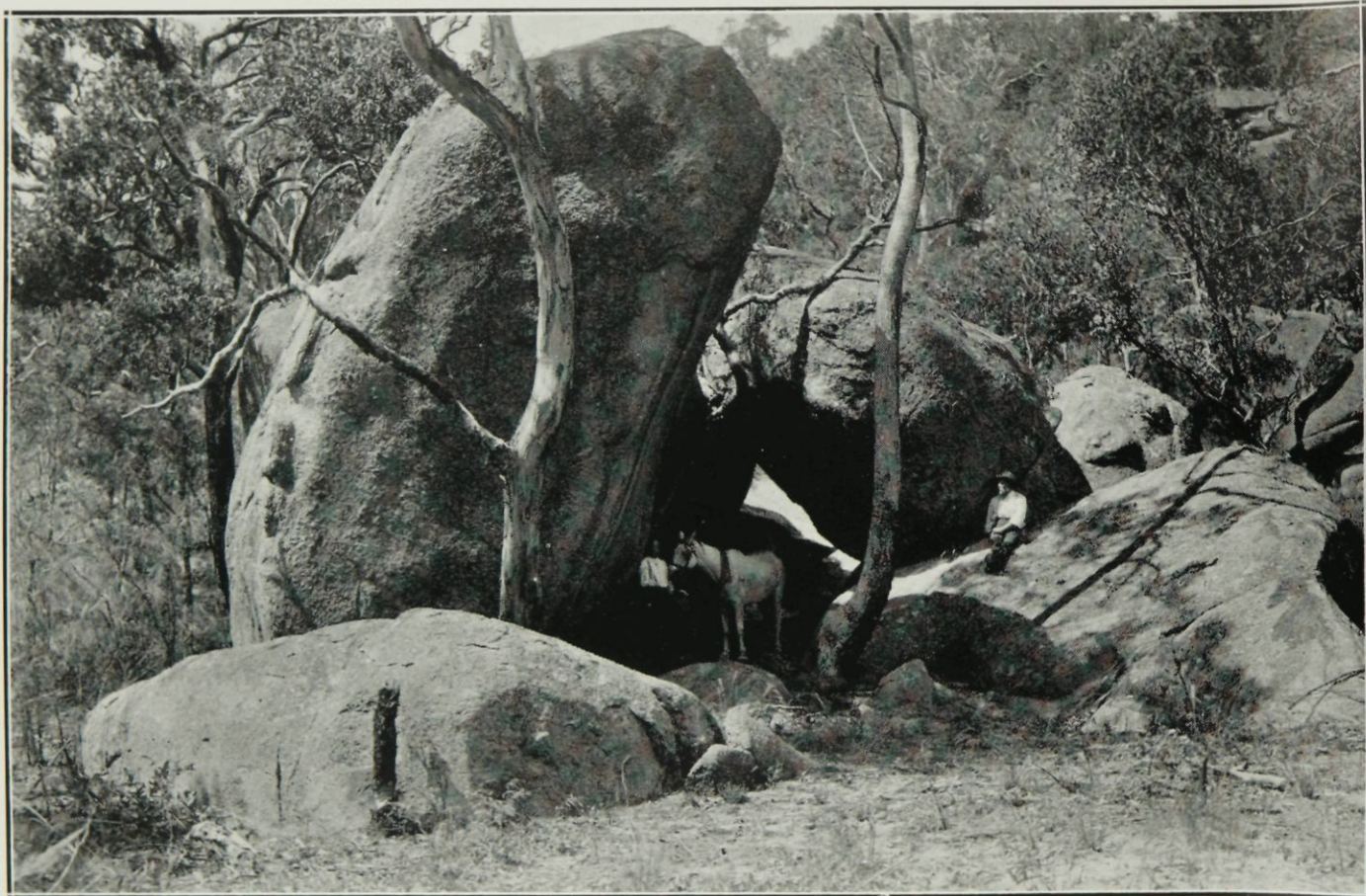


UNDERCLIFF FALLS

A comfortable afternoon's drive through very delightful scenery.

LOVERS' RETREAT

Huge granite boulders such as these often apparently precariously balanced, are a feature of the Stanthorpe District. This is at Little Broadwater a few miles out of town.





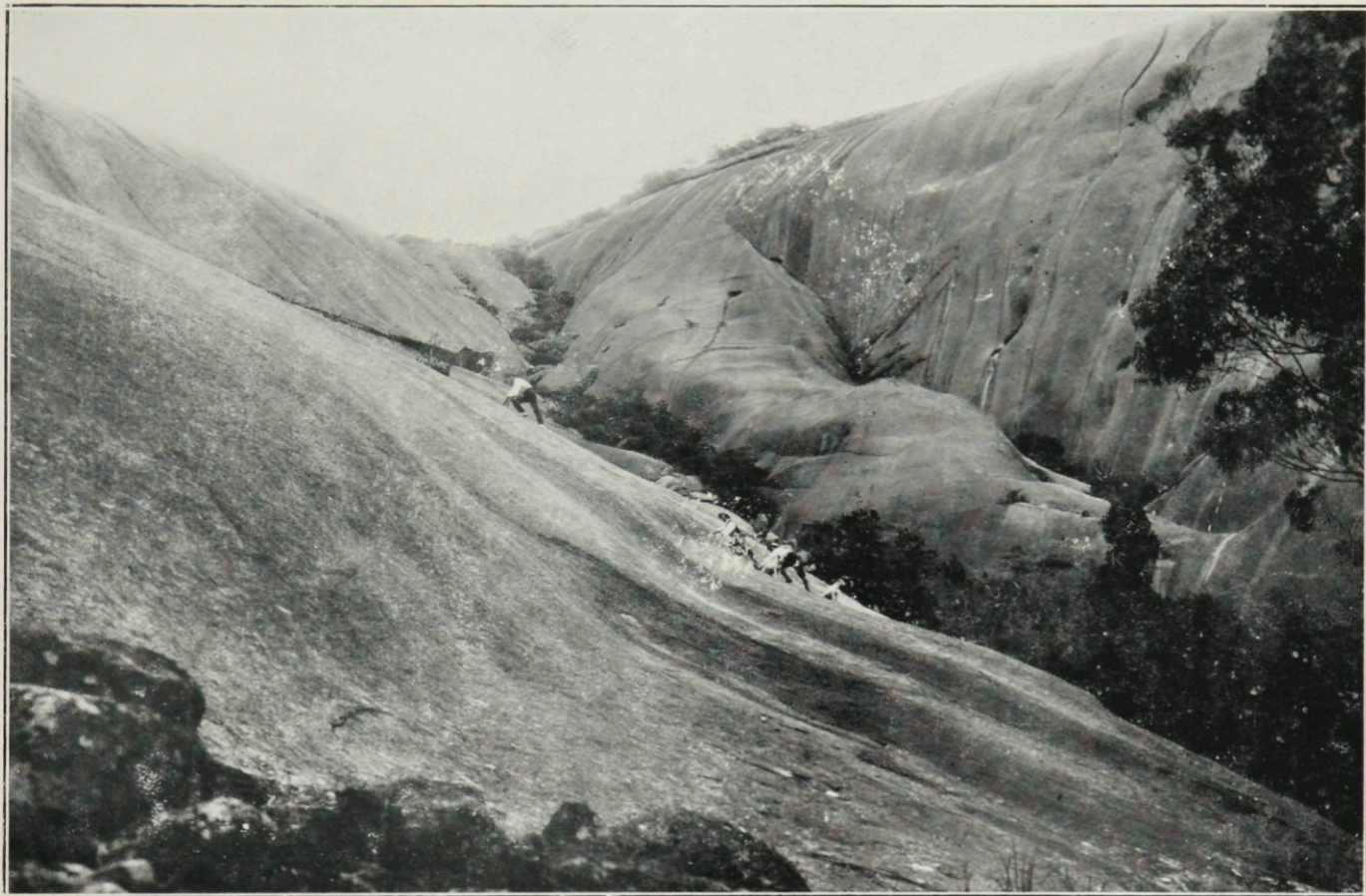
**A FINE
CROP OF GRAPES**

Growing grapes for the market is one of the major industries of the Stanthorpe district.

BLOSSOM TIME

To see the orchards in full blossom is an unforgettable sight. The white flowers of the plums, the many shades of pink which belong to the peaches, the pink and white of the apples, with a background of green and yellow (for the wattle is also in full bloom at this time), make a most beautiful picture.





BALD ROCK

looking up. Many peaks
about here are easily
climbable and afford
wonderful views of the
surrounding country.



THE TWO BROTHERS

On the road to the pyramids, about twenty miles from town.



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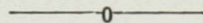
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Good Table

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Tourists and Travellers specially catered for

PROPRIETOR : M. ELLIOTT

“Where it pays to pay cash”

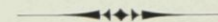
ARTHUR BIDDLE

The People's Clothier



See my prices then—

Examine the quality



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Under Vice-Regal Patronage

Sheahan's Hotel

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THE FRUIT CENTRE OF QUEENSLAND,
SITUATED ON THE GRANITE BELT

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Electric Light. Continuous Hot Water Service

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You can get it from

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VOYAGER ITEM



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— BRISBANE —

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Stanthorpe & district : Queensland's
wonderful mountain fruit garden

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